

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-01

OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-15 AGRE-00 AID-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02

SIL-01 STR-05 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 ARA-14 EA-12

EUR-12 /144 W

-----043093 030615Z /11

R 021748Z DEC 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3680

INFO UNCTAD COLLECTIVE

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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USEEC USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD

SUBJECT: GROUP OF 77 STATEMENT AT FINAL PLENARY OF
COMMON FUND NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF GROUP OF 77 STATEMENT DELIVERED
DURING THE FINAL PLENARY OF THE COMMON FUND NEGOTIATING
CONFERENCE, WHICH WAS SUSPENDED DECEMBER 1:

"STATEMENT MADE BY YUGOSLAVIA ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP
OF 77 ON 1 DECEMBER 1977:

1. ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77, I WOULD LIKE TO
THANK YOU FOR CONVENING THIS PLENARY MEETING AT OUR
REQUEST. YOU WILL RECALL THAT YESTERDAY I INFORMED YOU
OF THE UNANIMOUS DECISION TAKEN BY THE GROUP OF 77 TO
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CALL FOR A SUSPENSION OF THIS SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE,
AND REQUESTED YOU TO CONVEY THIS TO THE OTHER GROUPS
AND CHINA. I TAKE THE FLOOR NOW TO MOVE A FORMAL
PROPOSAL TO THIS EFFECT. THE GROUP OF 77 HAS BEEN
COMPELLED TO TAKE THIS SERIOUS STEP, AFTER THE MOST
CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, BECAUSE OF THE UNWILLINGNESS
OF SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO AGREE TO EVEN THE FUNDA-

MENTAL ASPECTS OF A COMMON FUND CONSISTENT WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES.

2. THROUGHOUT THIS CONFERENCE, WE HAVE DEMONSTRATED OUR DETERMINATION TO EXPLORE EVERY POSSIBLE AVENUE IN THE SEARCH FOR A BASIS ON WHICH MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS COULD COMMENCE. AWARE OF THE WIDE GAP BETWEEN THE POSITIONS OF THE DIFFERENT GROUPS, THE GROUP OF 77 IDENTIFIED CERTAIN FUNDAMENTAL ASPECTS WHICH WE FELT SHOULD BE AGREED UPON SO THAT FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS COULD PROCEED WITHIN A CLEARLY ESTABLISHED FRAMEWORK. THIS PROPOSAL BY THE GROUP OF 77 WAS ACCEPTED BY ALL GROUPS, AND THE DISCUSSIONS IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WERE STRUCTURED WITH THIS PURPOSE IN MIND. WHEN THE DEBATES IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE DID NOT PRODUCE ANY PROGRESS ON THESE FUNDAMENTAL ASPECTS, WE MADE A STATEMENT IN PLENARY AT THE MID-POINT OF THIS SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE VOICING OUR GRAVE DISQUIET OVER THESE DEVELOPMENTS. A FURTHER ATTEMPT WAS MADE IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EXTENDED BUREAU UNDER YOUR CHAIRMANSHIP WHICH LASTED FOR ANOTHER WEEK. WHEN THIS FAILED TO MOVE POSITIONS ANY CLOSER, THE GROUP OF 77 AGREED TO ENTER INTO YET ANOTHER ROUND OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AT THE REQUEST OF GROUP B. THE RESULT, AFTER FOUR INTENSIVE SESSIONS, IS WELL KNOWN TO ALL OF US. IN ALL THESE ATTEMPTS, MR. PRESIDENT, WE RECOGNIZED YOUR OWN UNTIRING AND LAUDABLE EFFORTS, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OCCASION TO THANK YOU FOR THEM.

3. THE PROCEEDINGS SO FAR HAVE LED US TO THE UNAVOIDABLE CONCLUSION THAT THE MAIN OBSTACLE IS NOT TECHNICAL BUT POLITICAL. IT STEMS FROM THE UNWILLINGNESS OF CERTAIN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO AGREE TO EVEN THE FUNDAMENTAL ASPECTS OF A COMMON FUND WHICH WOULD MAKE IT A KEY INSTRUMENT OF THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES. THIS ATTITUDE IS INDEED IN CLEAR CONTRADICTION TO THE COMMITMENTS MADE BY SOME OF THESE COUNTRIES THEMSELVES AT CIEC IN PARIS. THESE COMMITMENTS EXPLICITLY PROVIDED FOR A COMMON FUND AS A NEW ENTITY CAPABLE OF SERVING AS A KEY INSTRUMENT IN ACHIEVING THE AGREED OBJECTIVES OF THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES. THEY CERTAINLY COULD NOT IMPLY A PASSIVE AND RESIDUAL ARRANGEMENT, SEVERELY LIMITED IN ITS SCOPE, INTENDED TO FACILITATE THE FINANCING OF BUFFER STOCKS ONLY, AND COMPLETELY DEPENDENT FOR ITS RESOURCES ON DEPOSITS BY ICAS, AS CONTAINED IN THE PRESENT GROUP B PROPOSAL.

4. WE THEREFORE BELIEVE THAT IT IS UTTERLY FUTILE TO CONTINUE UNTIL ALL THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TAKE THE

NECESSARY POLICY DECISIONS IN FULFILMENT OF THEIR COMMIT-
MENTS.

5. MR. PRESIDENT, THE GROUP OF 77 REMAINS COMMITTED
TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON FUND THAT WILL CONSTITUTE
THE CENTRAL AND INTEGRATING ELEMENT PROVIDING OPERATIONAL
STRENGTH TO THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES AND
AT THE SAME TIME EXPRESS THE GLOBAL SOLIDARITY OF ALL
COUNTRIES, DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING, PRODUCERS AND
CONSUMERS, IN FINDING COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTIONS TO THE
PROBLEMS OF A WIDE RANGE OF COMMODITIES OF PARTICULAR
IMPORTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE GROUP OF 77

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USINT BAGHDAD
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AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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REMAINS READY AND WILLING TO NEGOTIATE IF AND WHEN THE
ATTITUDE OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IS SUCH AS TO INSPIRE
CONFIDENCE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL LEAD TO A SUCCESS-
FUL OUTCOME.

6. MR. PRESIDENT, PERMIT ME FINALLY TO EXTEND ONCE
MORE OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION TO CHINA AND ALL OTHER
COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT IN THEIR SUPPORT
FOR THE POSITION OF THE GROUP OF 77." VANDEN HEUVEL

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Sent Date: 02-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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